

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

1. (Currently amended) A battery pack comprising: a rechargeable battery [(2)] including a safety vent [(20)] by forming a release opening [(20a)], for externally releasing internal abnormal pressure of a battery case [(22)], on a metal sealing plate [(23)] sealing an open end of the battery case accommodating elements for electromotive force; and a substrate [(3)], having external terminals [(6)] thereon, being provided above the sealing plate [(23)]; the rechargeable battery [(2)] and the substrate [(3)] being integrated by a resin molding [(11)] filled and molded between the sealing plate [(23)] and the substrate [(3)], wherein the resin molding [(11)] is molded with filled resin and forms an operating space [(49)] for the safety vent [(20)] therein.

2. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 1, wherein the safety vent [(20)] is a clad vent structure which is formed by closing the release opening [(20a)] with a foil-like material at its side facing the inner side of the battery case [(20)].

3. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 1, wherein the operating space ~~[(49)]~~ is formed and opens to outer surface.

4. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 1, wherein an opening portion ~~[(112)]~~ connecting through the operating space ~~[(49)]~~ is formed on the substrate ~~[(3)]~~.

5. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 1, wherein a porous material ~~(40, 40a, 111)~~ is provided to inside of the operating space ~~[(49)]~~.

6. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 1, wherein the release opening ~~(20a)~~ of the safety vent ~~[(20)]~~ of the sealing plate ~~[(23)]~~ is covered by a sheet-like member ~~(40, 40a)~~ prior to the resin filling.

7. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 6, wherein the sheet-like member ~~[(40)]~~ is formed with its side surfaces being exposed to outer surface.

8. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 6, wherein the sheet-like member ~~(40, 40a)~~ is made with a porous material.

9. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 3 or 7, wherein externally opening portions of the operating space ~~[(49)]~~ are covered with a covering sheet ~~[(13)]~~.

10. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 1, further comprising a rubber-made sealing plug ~~(120)~~ having a stem portion ~~(120b)~~, and a lid portion ~~(120a)~~ being molded to extend a projected area of the release opening ~~(20a)~~ of the safety vent ~~[(20)]~~, wherein the stem portion ~~(120b)~~ is press-fit into the release opening.

11. (Currently amended) The battery pack according to claim 10, wherein a gap ~~(120c)~~, extending along the stem portion ~~(120b)~~ from its tip end to a stem base at the lid portion ~~(120a)~~, is formed and positioned between the release opening ~~(20a)~~ of the safety vent ~~[(20)]~~ and the sealing plug ~~(120)~~.